

ST. VINCENT'S ABBEY

BEATTY P.O., WESTMORELAND CO., PA

16 Oct 1888

Very Rev. J.A. Stephan, Director of Indian Bureau

Rev. Dear Father,

Yesterday I received a letter from Bp Marty, and from it I learn that you have already returned to Washington. I certainly expected you and the Misses Drexel to stop off at St. Vincent on your way East for the purpose of talking over the matter of the Indian School at Rensselaer, provided the result of the conference at Chicago would be that we take charge of said school.

Rt. Rev. Bp Marty writes me that St. Vincent might to take St. Joseph's, and I have concluded to do so. He also directs me to apply to you for particulars. Now I request you, Rev. Father, to give me in writing:

1. What you desire us to do at Rensselaer?
2. for how many men we will receive salary and how much?

I am convinced that by your experience, gained during many years in the successful management of Indian Schools, you are by far better qualified to answer above questions than I would be, and I frankly state here that there shall be no difficulty in coming to a satisfactory agreement.

One point however I wish to urge is that we accept the school now on probation for One year, leaving it free to either party at the close of the year to make a new contract or none at all. Such an agreement is in accordance with the sentiment expressed by you and Miss Drexel at Chicago, and is of course acceptable to me.

If you think advisable that I inform Miss Drexel of acceptance of school, I will do so, requesting you to send me her address.

Hoping that with God's grace this undertaking will be successful.

I am most respectfully yours,

Andrew O.S.B.

Abbot